

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MADRID 01882 120724Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01  
IO-13 TRSE-00 /072 W  
-----120729Z 008663 /13

P R 111849Z MAR 77ZDK  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9311  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 1882

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SP  
SUBJECT: BASQUE PROVINCE OF GUIPUZCOA PARALYZED BY PROTEST STRIKES,  
SCENE OF CONFRONTATIONS BETWEEN DEMONSTRATORS AND POLICE AS  
TWO SLAIN ETA MEMBERS INTERNED

REF: MADRID 1778

1. IN PROTEST AGAINST THE KILLING OF TWO ETA MEMBERS IN A  
MARCH 8 SHOOT-OUT WITH POLICE (REFTEL), OVER HALF OF GUIPUZ-  
COA'S 206,000-MAN LABOR FORCE WALKED OFF THE JOB YESTERDAY,  
EFFECTIVELY SHUTTING DOWN THE PROVINCE FOR MOST OF THE DAY.  
THOUSANDS ATTENDED SEPARATE FUNERAL SERVICES FOR THE SLAIN  
MILITANTS (BOTH OF THEM GUIPUZCOANX WHICH WERE FOLLOWED IN  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MADRID 01882 120724Z

THE LATE AFTERNOON AND EVENING BY NUMEROUS CONFRONTATIONS  
BETWEEN DEMONSTRATORS AND HEAVILY ARMED, REINFORCED RIOT  
SQUADS, WHOSE PERFORMANCE REPORTEDLY HARKENED BACK TO  
OLD FREE-SWINGING DAYS. THE OTHER 3 BASQUE PROVINCES REMAINED  
RELATIVELY CALM, WITH SOME PROTEST STRIKE ACTIVITY IN VIZCAYA  
AND A REPORTED CONFRONTATION LAST NIGHT BETWEEN DEMONSTRATORS  
AND POLICE IN DOWN TOWN PAMPLONA, NAVARRE.

2. MEANWHILE, IN AN ATTEMPT TO WIND DOWN THE TENSION IN ALWAYS VOLATILE GUIPUZCOA, CIVIL GOVERNOR BELLOCH HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE PROVIDED A MORE DETAILED OFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF THE SHOOT-OUT IN WHICH THE TWO WERE SLAIN AND EXPRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE EMOTIONAL REACTION OF GUIPUZCOANS TO IT, WHILE UNDERLINING HIS SUPPORT FOR TOUGH POLICE MEASURES AGAINST VIOLENCE-PRONE DEMONSTRATORS. BELLOCH'S EXPLANATION OF THE SHOOT-OUT WAS AT SOME VARIANCE WITH THE ORIGINAL OFFICIAL NOTE (REFTEL), HOWEVER, AND AMCONSUL BILBAO REPORTS THAT THIS HAS REINFORCED A PRONOUNCED RELUCTANCE ON THE PART OF MANY BASQUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE SHOOTING TOOK PLACE AS OFFICIALLY DESCRIBED.

3. AMCONSUL BILBAO REPORTS THAT STRIKE ACTIVITY HAS CONTINUED TODAY IN GUIPUZCOA AND ADJACENT AREAS OF NAVARRE AND VIZCAYA, AND HE ANTICIPATES A RECRUDESCENCE OF DEMONSTRATIONS AS THE DAY WEARS ON AND PERHAPS EVEN THROUGH THE WEEKEND, TO DIE OUT EARLY NEXT WEEK. HE ADDS, HOWEVER, THAT BILBAO AND MOST OF THE VIZCAYA ARE GENERALLY QUIET, AS IS ALAVA, WITH "PROTEST-STRIKE ACTIVITY BEING MORE RELATED TO LOCAL LABOR-MANAGEMENT ISSUES THAN TO THE TWO SLAYINGS. EATON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, PROVINCE, MURDER, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, LABOR STRIKES, POLITICAL SITUATION, BORDER INCIDENTS, POLICE FORCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MADRID01882  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770150-0722, D770085-0140  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MADRID  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770369/aaaacyg.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 57ccbab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MADRID 1778  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3137105  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BASQUE PROVINCE OF GUIPUZCOA PARALYZED BY PROTEST STRIKES, SCENE OF CONFRONTATIONS BETWEEN DEMONSTRATORS AND POLICE AS TWO SLAIN ETA MEMBERS INTERNED  
**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, SP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/57ccbab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

